



THE
MOUNTAIN
OF
MISERIES.





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From the SPECTATORS,
VOL. VIII. N^o. 558, 559.
ATTEMPTED in VERSE.

*Qui fit, Mæcenas, ut nemo, quam sibi sortem
Seu ratio dederit, seu fors objecerit, illa
Contentus vivat :* HOR.



L O N D O N :

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ATTEMPTED in VERSE.
Vol. VII. M. 188, 519.
From the SPINATOR.

Quia si, dicitur, in nemo, quoniam ubi forte
Sed et si dicitur, per hoc obicitur, illa
Contra dicitur: Hor.



NO. 10

(Price Six pence.)



TO THE READER.

THE *Spectator*, Vol. 8.
No. 358, 359. I have
often read, and as often
admir'd: The Lines are
every where pregnant
with Pleasure and De-
light;

vi *To the Reader.*

light; new Beauties arise
on every Review; the
Thoughts appear plain
and natural, and, at the
same Time, the Images
are strong and bold, en-
liven'd with a prodigi-
ous Quickness of Wit and
Fancy. In them the Fol-
ly and Discontent of Man-
kind stand beautifully ri-
dicul'd; while Patience
and Resignation to the
Divine

To the Reader. vii

Divine Will are elegantly recommended. — But these Observations must occur to every *Reader* of tolerable Taste. — But 'tis needless, and a Folly in me, to acquaint the World with any Observations of this Sort; there are but few (I doubt not) but are as well acquainted with these *two Spectators* as my self. — The Subject above
menti-

viii *To the Reader.*

mention'd (which I have
so often been delighted
with, I have endeavour'd
to versify, tho' without
any Hopes of heightening
(O that I could preserve)
the Beauties of the Ori-
ginal.



THE



THE
MOUNTAIN
OF
MISERIES.



WONDROUS Man! of all the Works
(of Nature,
The most ungrateful discontented
(Creature;
False to thy Self, nor to thy Neighbour just,
'Midst all Conditions think'st thy own the
(worst.

B

IF

If all the feign'd Calamities of Man,
 Were cast together on a publick Plain,
 And from that Heap, each Man again to chuse,
 Which he thought best, and which as worst re-
 (fufe;

At his own idle Choice he'd soon repine,
 And for his first allotted Share resign,
 That which he chose, and praise the Pow'rs
 (divine.)

As gently lolling in my Elbow-Chair,
 And ruminating on this great Affair,
 A pleasant Slumber did my Eyelids close,
 And in my Fancy, these strange Phantoms' rose.

METHOUGHT great *Jupiter* gave strict Com-
 (mand,
 By Proclamation, o'er the spacious Land;
 That

That ev'ry Mortal round the globy Space,
Should swift repair to an appointed Place.

AWFUL he gave to *Mercury* the Nod,
Quick the wing'd Messenger obey'd the God,
Down from *Olympus's* Top descending, he
Pursu'd his rapid Flight o'er Land and Sea;
Inform'd each Mortal who afflicted was,
Immediate to produce the fatal Cause;
Their Griefs, Calamities; their Pains and
(Smart;
And all Difasters that afflict the Heart.

A SPACIOUS Plain (as tho' on Purpose made)
Appointed was, where each their Crosses laid;
I in the Center took the foremost Stand,
And saw well pleas'd the mortal Race of Man,

March One by One, with chearful Steps along,
 Till there assembl'd a prodigious Throng;
 Each quits his Burden, Loads on Loads arise,
 Which form'd a Mountain seem'd to touch the
 (Skies.

THERE was a Lady of a sprightly Air,
 Seem'd very active in this great Affair;
 Her nimble Feet mov'd swiftly round the Place,
 And in her Hand she held a Convex-Glass;
 Her flowing Robes loose hover'd in the Air,
 On which a Thousand different Forms appear;
 Their Fiends and Spectres frightfully imprest,
 Display'd themselves upon her silken Vest;
 Distract and Wildness in her Looks appear'd,
 Her Name was FANCY, as I quickly heard:
 She was the Leader of this mortal Race,
 Conducting them to this appointed Place;

Offici-

Officiously she helpt 'em make their Pack,
And then she kindly laid it on their Back.

At sight of this my Heart began to melt,
My fainting Soul a strange Disorder felt,
To see my Fellow-Creatures, hear their moan,
How each beneath their diff'rent Burdens groan,
And still considering what a Bulk behind
Of Evils lay, allotted to Mankind.

Tho' very odd, yet pleasing was this Sight,
For sev'ral there occasion'd great Delight.
Some sigh'd, some groan'd, and others laugh'd
While I well pleas'd observ'd this fantick
(Crowd.

Above the rest a Man I noted there,
Came walking forward with a steady Air;
Beneath

Beneath an old embroider'd Cloke he wore,
 A Fardel very carefully he bore;
 But as he threw it on the Mountain, I
 Discover'd quickly 'twas his Poverty.

Thrs scarce was past before there came ano-
 (ther,
 Who puff'd and blow'd and made a mighty
 (Pother,
 Flung down his Luggage, with a chearful
 (Heart,
 Lie there quoth he, old Friends were born to
 (part.
 Hearing these Words I turn'd my self around,
 There saw his Wife lie sprawling on the Ground.
 (Crowd)

NEXT after these in Throngs the Lovers came,
 All strangely loaden with their Darts and Flame,
 Their

Their Vows and Promises, their Groans and

(Sighs:

These fill'd the Plain with their Calamities;

But what was odd 'mongst all this Crowd I

(found,

Not one of them wou'd lay his Burden down.

They sigh'd, and groan'd, came up t'th'Heap,

(and then,

Shaking their foolish Heads, walk'd back again,

As heavy loaden as they thither came.

OLD Women next in Multitudes appear,

Some left their Wrinkles, others their gray Hair;

Some left their Ages scatter'd on the Plain,

For all would glad be counted Young again;

Some young Ones too among the rest came in,

And off their Body's stript their tawny Skin.

Thick

Thick Lips, bow Legs, and many a fiery Nose,
 And rusty Teeth, in Heaps themselves disclose,
 All Parts defective, Sicknefs, Pains, Distempers,
 And ev'ry Evil——but their evil Tempers.

NEXT I observ'd one heavily oppress'd,
 With a much larger Burden than the rest,
 Which prov'd to be, as he approached near,
 A nat'ral Hump, which he dispos'd of there,
 With joyful Heart, to the Collection join'd,
 Where all the Miseries lay of Humankind:
 Distempers too, and ev'ry Sort of Woe,
 Tho' more imagin'd than were really so.

AMONG the rest a little Packet I
 Could but observe in great Advertency:
 This Fardle was a Composition join'd,
 Of all Diseases subject to Mankind,

And

And in the Hands of most fine People seen;
As I remember this was call'd the *Spleen*.

Just after this, I saw a Lady Fair,
Approach the Heap with a majestick Air;
Rich were her Cloaths, a monst'rous Hoop she
(wore,
Which I imagin'd was her greatest Sore.
But She advancing nearer to the Place,
For one small Speck, flung down a handsome
(Face.

I many more such Fancies saw beside,
But none would leave their Folly, Vice, or Pride.
On thought of that, I greatly was surpriz'd,
For, I concluding with myself, devis'd
That ev'ry Mortal would embrace with Joy
And Thankfulness, this Opportunity;

C

To

And

To free their troubled Minds from all Vexations,
 Such as their Frailties, Prejudice, and Pas-
 (sions.

NEXT, in particular, I fix'd my Eye
 On an ignoble Fellow passing by,
 Prest with his Crimes (I question'd not) in haste
 To ease his Burden, lest his Time should waste;
 But on my strict examining, I found,
 Instead of's Guilt, he'd laid his Mem'ry down.
 Another worthless Rogue, as ill as he,
 Advancing near, flung down his Modesty
 Instead of's Ignorance, and so march'd on,
 Nor was at all concern'd at what he'd done;
 While many more, too numerous to count,
 Were aggregating this stupendious Mount.

Now the whole Race of miserable Man,
 Had cast their heavy Burdens on the Plain;
 The

The *Phantom*, who so busy was before,
 On this Occasion, thought her Hurry o'er ;
 And seeing me an idle Gazer there
 Of what had past, approach'd me somewhat
 (near ;

I much uneasy at her Presence grew,
 But She resolv'd to have a perfect View ;
 And held her Glass direct before my Eyes
 Seeing my Face, I startled with Surprize ;
 The shortness of it was a great Vexation,
 Which then appear'd in'ts utmost Aggrava-
 (tion,

For the immod'rate Breadth of ev'ry Feature
 Made me conceit I wan't the self-same Creature ;
 Thus out of Humour with myself, I threw
 My Visage from me, like a Mask, it flew,
 But Fortune favour'd ; very luckily,
 One 'most in my Condition standing by,

Had just flung down his Visage, in Extrême,
 As mine too short, as much too long for him;
 The very Chin, if I but rightly guess,
 Extended was as long as my whole Face:
 Now both of us had Opportunity
 To mend ourselves, which was no little Joy.

THE Contributions now were all brought in,
 And ev'ry Man at Liberty again
 To pick and chuse, as his own Choice inclin'd,
 Which he thought best, and leave the worst
 (behind.

THUS with unspeakable Delight, saw I
 Each Man releas'd from his Calamity.
 Still as we gaz'd on this surprizing Sight,
 The Mount appear'd of a prodigious hight;
 For all the various Evils that invade
 The Mind of Man, were here together laid.

There

There was not One 'mong all this dreary

(Throng,

Who had not something on the Mountain

(flung.

Now all furround this wond'rous Pile, a-

(maz'd,

And on each other's diff'rent Burden gaz'd;

Still wond'ring how the Owners (while pos-

(sessing,

Thought that a Grievance, which they thought

(a Blessing.

As thus I view'd, with Wonder and Sur-

(prize,

This vast confusive Mass of Miseries;

Methought great *Jupiter* proclaim'd aloud,

That ev'ry one of this extensive Crowd

Was now at Liberty t' exchange his Load,

And so return each to his own Abode.

ON

ON this gay FANCY She began again,
 And nimbly mov'd Herself around the Plain,
 There parc'ling out, with great Activity,
 This wond'rous Pile, this Bulk of Misery;
 Then recommended to each Man his Part,
 Who took his Packet with a chearful Heart.

THE Hurry now, and vast Confusion there,
 I can't exprefs, no not one Half declare;

Yet would some kind, some gen'rous Muse in-
 (spire

My feeble Lays, and with Poetick Fire
 Warm my cold Bosom, I'd proceed to write
 Some Observations on this wond'rous Sight.

FIRST I observ'd, among this mortal Race,
 A worthy Gray-hair'd Man draw near the
 (Place;
 Calm

Calm were his Looks, nor niggard, nor elate;
 Who wanted but an Heir to his Estate;
 For just before, as I observing found,
 With joyful Heart, he'd thrown the Cholick
 (down;

So prying round, snatch'd up a graceless

Son,

(Just on the Heap, by's angry Father thrown)

And gladly would adopt him for his own.

But this vile Youth, in a short time was heard
 To d—n old Dad, then took him by the Beard;
 Nay worse, he'd like t'ave beaten out his Brains:
 Thus he repaid him for his Care and Pains.

But walking on, he the true Father meets,
 Torn with the Gripes, who he with Rev'rence
 (greet;

Imploring him to take his Son again,
 And give him back his Cholick's griping Pain.

But

But both of them, unable to recede,
Were forc'd to keep the wretched Choice they'd
(made.

NEXT came a Gally-Slave, with aukward
(Tread,
Who'd left his Chains, and took the Gout in'ts
Stead :

But seeing him make such an odd Grimace,
I thought he'd no great Bargain, by his Face.

'Twas pleasant Sport to see 'em chop and
(change
Sickness and Cares, 'gainst Poverty and Pains ;
And Hunger some, 'gainst want of Appetite,
With many more which gave me great De-
(light.

BUT now does all the best o'th Sport appear,
The Female World, which were so busy there
Among

Among themselves, bartering for Features;
 You cannot think how busy were those Crea-
 (tures.

HERE One was cheap'ning, with great Agi-
 (tation;

A rueful Face, for her lost Reputation:
 Another there, with no less Joy embrac'd
 Two rising Shoulders for too short a Waist:
 And here a Third, who'd left her tawny Skin,
 Took up the Tooth-Ach with an aukward
 (Grin;
 Nor was there One, but soon as she'd possess'd,
 Curst her late Choice, and lik'd the old one
 (best.

LIKEWISE I made on all th' assembl'd Throng
 My Observations, as they pass'd along;

D

They

They curs'd their Fate, bewailing o'er the
 . (Plain
 Their sad Misfare, they wish'd, and pray'd,
 (and fain
 Would be releas'd; but wish'd and pray'd
 (in vain.)

NEXT I observ'd, with a compassionate Eye,
 That Hump-back'd Gentleman walk nimbly by,
 Eas'd of his Bulk; but was e'er Mortal madder,
 A well-shap'd Person, with a Stone in's Bladder!
 And also the fine Gentleman who had
 Exchang'd with him, his Case was full as bad;
 For those fine Ladies he could no ways 'scape
 Who us'd t' admire him for his handsom Shape,
 But thro' the whole assembl'd Throng was led,
 With two Hump-Shoulders peeping o'er his
 (Head.
 NOR

NOR will I 'mongst those various *Phantoms*

(shown,

Omit this strange Adventure of my own:

My Friend with the long Visage scarce had laid

His own Face down, and taken mine in's Stead,

But such a grotesque Figure sure was he,

Would make a sick Man laugh aloud to see.

I looking earnestly upon the Elf,

Could not refrain from laughing at myself,

Ins'much I put my own Face out of Frame;

And he poor Man, as sensible of Shame

For seeing his own Folly, made him mad,

And I, to boast but little Reason had:

For play'ng my handsom Times about my

(Face,

If aiming at my Forehead, miss'd the Place,

And laid my Finger on my upper Lip,

I thought 'twas strange to make so great a Slip;

Beside, s' exceeding prom'nant was my Nose,
Which made me give it some unlucky Blows,

I ALSO saw two other Persons there,
Who just in the same Circumstances were ;
Those two had made a foolish Change between
A Pair of Trapsticks, where no Calves were
(seen,

And two thick Bandy-Legs, bent in and out ;
It made me laugh to see them stalk about :
The first of those being lift above the Ground,
As if on Stilts, which made his Head turn
(round ;

While t'other made (as he attempt' to prove)
Such awkward Strides, not knowing how to
(move

Upon his new Supporters ; but I found
He was a merry Cock, so in the Ground

I stuck

I stuck my Cane, and laid a Pint of Wine }
 He could not march up to it in a Line }
 (Which I would draw) in Fifteen Minutes }
 (Time.)

THIS wond'rous Pile, which did so large ap-
 pear,
 Was now dispers'd 'mong th' two Sexes there,
 But O! the Sight which now presents my
 (Eyes,
 The Plain's o'erspread with nought but Groans
 (and Cries;
 O me! they cry, of former Joys bereft,
 O, that I'd not to my own Choice been left!

THEN once again great *Jupiter* look'd down
 With kind Compassion from his radiant Throne,
 Order'd each Mortal once again to lay
 His Burden down; they gladly him obey.

And

And now the *Phantom*, after this Confusion,
 Who'd led them into such a gross Delusion,
 Immediately was charg'd to disappear,
 And in her Stead, another Goddess there
 Supply'd her Place, of a quite diff'rent Air;
 Her Motions were all steady and compos'd;
 Her cheerful Face a Thousand Charms dis-
 (clos'd;
 Off towards Heav'n She cast a wishful Eye,
 Then fix'd 'em on great *Jupiter* on high.
 Her Name was PATIENCE, She'd no sooner
 (plac'd
 By this prodigious Mount her cheerful Face,
 But the whole Heap was sunk surprizing lower,
 'Twas not One-Third so big as 'twas before.
 She then return'd each Man his proper Share,
 And taught him how with *Patience* it to
 (bear;
 Content-

Contentedly each Mortal takes his Part,
 And so march'd onward with a joyful Heart,
 Well pleas'd that he from his own Choice was
 (clear,
 And had what *Jove* first order'd for his Share.

BESIDE the Morals, which are not a few
 From out this Vision to be drawn, I drew
 These following Sentences, with good De-
 (sign

Ne'er at my own Misfortunes to repine;
 Nor yet reflect on other Men, much less
 Envy them of their proper Happiness;
 Since 'tis impossible to judge aright
 Our Neighbour's Sufferings, or their De-
 (light:
 Nor think so lightly of another's Pain,
 Left I, like him, have Reason to complain:

But

But to regard with friendly Sentiments
 My Fellow-Creatures Sorrows and Complaints,
 And look on all Men with impartial Eyes,
 But pity those beneath Calamities.

F I N I S.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Shortly will be Publish'd, *Poems on several Occasions*, by the AUTHOR of this: Some of which have never yet been Printed, and others are now carefully collected together, with additional Amendments.